

NEW-YORK. SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 1911.

INTERNATIONAL POLICE

Rear Admiral Goodrich Favors
One to Insure Peace of World.

HAS LONG APPROVED PLAN

Wants Nations to Unite in Mak-
ing Arbitration at The Hague
Compulsory.Rear Admiral Casper F. Goodrich, U. S. N., in
The Nineteenth Century.

If the traditional visitor from Mars were asked on his return to his native planet what the inhabitants of Terra are doing he would doubtless dwell more upon the moral and social aspects of the communities he had observed than upon their material development, which, for all we know, may be vastly inferior to that of the Martians themselves. The disparity in the conditions of life here and their wide range, from toilless luxury to the bare struggle for existence, would have impressed him as it does all students of things human, but I venture to believe that, among the extraordinary phenomena to attract his attention, not the least extraordinary would be the jealousies, suspicions and animosities now prevailing, one might almost say raging, between the different peoples of this earth.

The discouraging feature of this universal temper is that its most striking symptoms are of comparatively recent origin and growth. Well may the pessimist see no light behind the clouds and so lose all hope of better things. On the other hand, the optimist, with even more reason, may hold that it is always darkest just before dawn, and that the present menacing attitude between the nations, being but the work of man's hand, can by man's hand be equally well changed into franker recognition of each other's necessities and legitimate aspirations, into such mutual concessions and agreements as will postpone indefinitely the Armageddon toward which all seem now to be tending.

QUEST HIGHLY PRACTICAL

The question is practical in the highest degree, notwithstanding the contentions of those humanitarian who find in public opinion an all-sufficient weapon against the peace breaker. Possibly they are right when speaking in the future tense, but we are living in the present, and the logic of facts is, unhappily, against them. It is an admitted duty of the state to protect its subjects, failure to do so being unpardonable. Wise rulers must, therefore, be convinced, before taking steps to lessen the burden of armaments, that these steps do not sacrifice this necessary and obligatory defense.

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VIEWS OF AN OPTIMIST.

Classing myself among the optimists, I venture to make my humble and insignificant contribution to the solution of the most important general problem with which the statesmen of the world are now confronted, claiming a place in the ranks on the ground that nearly thirty years ago I formed and expressed an opinion on this subject which time and thought have only served to strengthen, although, since that date, certain events have occurred to modify somewhat the application of that opinion.

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factors, at that moment unforeseen, have been injected into the perplexing question. The Hague Tribunal has been established to win through its decisions increased confidence in the possibility of composing international differences by the processes of sweet reason. Treaties of arbitration have passed from the realm of the dreamer into the commonplaces of world politics. The latest of these treaties, due in large measure to the personal interest of America's broadminded and courageous President, Mr. Taft, will put a seal upon the banishment of hostilities between the English-speaking peoples. The almost universal satisfaction with which the proposal has been received on both sides of the Atlantic cannot fail to make other peoples covet similar conventions in their turn.

I am not among those who see no good whatever in armies and navies—quite the contrary. There is a great deal to be said in favor of military establishments for their educational capacity, but whether this is not in itself a serious arraignment of our education systems, which fail to yield what armies and navies, with other ends in view, do succeed in producing, is a riddle I leave to the casuists.

It will be many a long day before armies and navies can be entirely abolished, for they are the nation's visible police, without which governments would be powerless to compel and maintain order. Our civilization has not reached the point where the policeman and his club, can be dispensed with. When that happens, and do succeed in producing, is a riddle I leave to the casuists.

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